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## Russell Says Instability In Saigon Bars Victory

By the Associated Press

The chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee has predicted U.S. failure in Viet Nam unless the South Vietnamese government becomes more stable.

Georgia Democrat Richard Russell spoke with reporters yesterday following a closed briefing of 15 senators by John A. McCone, director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Russell said "it is a miracle" that the South Vietnamese have carried on the war against the Viet Cong as well as they have "with this changing-chair government."

"Until we stop the revolving chair system, there is very little hope of much progress. . . . The situation worsens every time they have a coup and change their civil government."

Without a stable government in Saigon, Russell said, "We can't win the war."

Russell was asked whether U.S. intelligence was aware of South Vietnamese coups before they occurred.

"We knew they were in the works, and tried to prevent them," the senator replied.

He said U.S. intelligence is not perfect anywhere, but "the CIA has done a very fine job."

Russell added that there have

been instances where U.S. policymakers "would have been well advised to pay attention" to CIA reports. He did not elaborate.

Sen. Karl E. Mundt, R-S.D., said he felt the administration is too intent on South Vietnamese development of a democratic government modeled after what would be acceptable in the United States.

Mundt said South Viet Nam needs "an authoritative, sound, broadly based, as possible government which has the will to win. I don't feel we can have free, democratic elections there at this particular juncture."